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Application No. 09/745,607
Amendment "A"

Amendments To The Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for controlling the transmission of control information to an input device in an entertainment system, comprising:

receiving programming data associated with a broadcast channel displaying a show associated with the channel;

configuring an input device to operate in a first mode that suspends transmission of all channel selection input control information entered via said input device, to the entertainment system.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a message indicating that said input device is configured to operate in the first mode.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein said message is displayed for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein configuring the input device comprises:

~~selecting a key on said input device;~~

~~prompting the user to enter a password;~~

displaying a menu having at least one option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said first mode that suspends transmission of input control information to the entertainment system;

selecting said at least one option[[.]]; selecting a key on said input device following the selection of the at least one option; and

prompting the user to enter a password.

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Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, further comprising displaying a status key indicating that said first mode is selected.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving an instruction to configure the input device to operate in a second mode that facilitates unlimited transmission of input control information to the entertainment system.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6, wherein receiving said instruction to configure the input device to operate in the second mode comprises:

~~selecting said key on said input device;~~
~~prompting the user to enter the password;~~
~~confirming the validity of said password;~~

displaying a menu having an option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said second mode that facilitates unlimited transmission of input control information to the entertainment system;

selecting said option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said second mode[.];

selecting said key on said input device following the selecting of said option;
prompting the user to enter the password; and
confirming the validity of said password.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, further comprising displaying a message indicating that said input device is configured to operate in the second mode.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising terminating transmission of all input control information to said entertainment system entered via said input device.

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Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, further comprising reactivating transmission of all input control information to said entertainment system entered via said input device upon selection of a dedicated key on said input device.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An entertainment system comprising:
a display monitor; and
a broadcast receiver coupled to the display monitor, the broadcast receiver
including
a front-end unit capable of receiving programming data associated with a
show broadcast for viewing on the display monitor,
a memory, and
a central processing unit coupled to the memory, the central processing unit
coupled to receive programming data associated with a broadcast channel, the central processing
unit to execute software to display a show associated with the channel, said central processing
unit to execute software to configure an input device to operate in a first mode that suspends
transmission of all channel selection input control information entered via said input device, to
the entertainment system.

Claim 12 (original): The entertainment system of claim 11, wherein the central processing unit further executes software to display a message indicating that said input device is configured to operate in the first mode.

Claim 13 (original): The entertainment system of claim 12, wherein said message is displayed for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The entertainment system of claim 11,
wherein configuring the input device comprises:
~~selecting a key on said input device;~~

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~~prompting the user to enter a password;~~

displaying a menu having at least one option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said first mode that suspends transmission of input control information to the entertainment system;

selecting said at least one option[[.]]; *AM Cont*

selecting a key on said input device following the selection of the at least one option; and

prompting the user to enter a password.

Claim 15 (original): The entertainment system of claim 14, wherein said central processing unit further executes software to display a status key indicating that said first mode is selected.

Claim 16 (original): The entertainment system of claim 11, wherein said central processing unit further receives an instruction to configure the input device to operate in a second mode that facilitates unlimited transmission of input control information to the entertainment system.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The entertainment system of claim 16, wherein receiving said instruction to configure the input device to operate in the second mode comprises:

~~selecting said key on said input device;~~

~~prompting the user to enter the password;~~

~~confirming the validity of said password;~~

displaying a menu having an option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said second mode that facilitates unlimited transmission of input control information to the entertainment system;

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selecting said option that facilitates configuration of said input device to operate in said second mode[.];

selecting said key on said input device following the displaying of the menu and the selecting of said option:

prompting the user to enter the password:

confirming the validity of said password.

Claim 18 (original): The entertainment system of claim 17, wherein said central processing unit further displays a message indicating that said input device is configured to operate in the second mode.

Claim 19 (original): The entertainment system of claim 11, wherein transmission of all input control information to said entertainment system entered via said input device is terminated.

Claim 20 (original): The entertainment system of claim 19, wherein transmission of all input control information to said entertainment system entered via said input device is reactivated, upon selection of a dedicated key on said input device.